**Train halt at Vasundhara (Ghaziabad)**

†1145. SHRI LAJPAT RAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that most of the persons residing in sector 2 to 6 in Vasundhara (Ghaziabad) are Government employees working in Delhi and they face inconvenience while arriving in and departing from Delhi;

(b) if so, whether Government would seriously reconsider to set up a railway halt at Vasundhara between Ghaziabad and Sahibabad, to meet the problems being faced by the people;

(c) if so, by when; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) to (d) The proposal for opening of a halt station at Vasundhara between Ghaziabad and Sahibabad stations has been examined and the same has not been found financially and operationally justified. Moreover, adequate road transport facilities are already available in the vicinity of the proposed halt station.

**Unmanned level crossings in Maharashtra**

1146. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of railway level crossings in Maharashtra, not provided with gates, so far; and

(b) what is Government's planning for providing gates at railway level crossings to avoid accidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) There are 1208 unmanned level crossings in the State of Maharashtra.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) Accidents at unmanned level crossings occur due to the negligence of the road users who fail to follow the road signs and the rules and stipulations contained in the Motor Vehicle Act, 1988 for safe crossing at level crossings. Planning for manning of unmanned level crossings is done as per following criteria:—

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | Where the Train Vehicle Units (TVUs) exceed 10,000 | Category-I |
| 2. | Where TVUs exceed 6,000 and where visibility is restricted | Category-II |
| 3. | Where TVUs is less than 6,000 and visibility is restructed but buses motor vehicles ply regularly | Category-III |
| 4. | Where TVUs is less than 6,000 and visibility is restricted but motor vehicle do not ply | Category-IV |
| 5. | Where visibility is adequate but traffic density exceeds 6,000 TVUs | Category-V |

For manning, unmanned level crossings, necessitated due to increase in the volume of the road traffic and visibility for road users. The initial capital as well as capitalized cost of annual recurring maintenance and operational cost has to be born fully by the State Government/Local Authorities concerned. Efforts are being made to persuade the State Government to come forward with their proposals for manning of unmanned level crossings on 'deposit' terms.

**Manhandling by RPF personnels**

1147. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Chhattisgarh Express was abruptly stopped at Nagpur Station on 4th-5th July, 2002;

(b) whether a number of RPF personnel cruelly assaulted and manhandled some passengers, including ladies, travelling in this train;